

means for receiving associated data from a Global Positioning Satellite transmission;

means for inserting the associated data into the digital data prior to signing the digital data, the associated data comprising at least two fields;

means for signing the digital data excluding the predetermined bits resulting in the digital signature; and

means for inserting the digital signature into the predetermined bits of the digital data for subsequent authentication of the digital data and the associated data.

REMARKS

This response is submitted in response to the Final Office Action mailed December 31, 2001, to request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 112, 113, 115-119, 121, 124-126, and 128 as set forth therein. In the event the Examiner determines that the foregoing amendments do not place the case in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the above amendments be entered to place the claims in better form for consideration on appeal.

Initially, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 1-3, 5-16, 18-24, 33-41, 47-49, 51-62, 64, 66-68, 70, 79-87, 108-111, 120, 122, 123, 127, and 129-134 are allowable and that claim 114 contains allowable subject matter.

However, the Examiner maintains the rejections of claims 112, 113, 115-119, 121, 124-126, and 128. Specifically, the Examiner maintains the rejection of claims 117 and 124 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Barton. Additionally, the Examiner maintains the rejection of claims 118, 119, 125, and 126 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barton in view of Arnold. Furthermore, the Examiner maintains the

rejection of claims 121 and 128 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barton in view of Arnold and further in view of Schneier. Lastly, the Examiner maintains the rejection of claims 112, 113, 115, and 116 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barton in view of Arnold and further in view of Bramall.

In response, claim 112 has been amended to recite that the recognition of the user of the device is through biometric characteristic recognition, claim 117 has been amended to recite that the associated data is received from a GPS transmission, and claim 124 has been amended to recite a means for receiving the associated data from a GPS transmission. In the Official Action, the Examiner indicates that these amendments will result in claims 112, 117, and 124 along with their dependent claims (113, 115, 116, 118, 119, 125, and 126, respectively) being allowed.

Accordingly, claims 112, 117, and 124, as amended, patentably distinguish over the prior art and are allowable. Claims 113, 115, 116, 118, 119, 125, and 126, being dependent upon claims 112, 117, and 124, are thus allowable therewith. Consequently, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections of claims 112, 113, 115, 116-119, and 124-126 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a).

With respect to independent claims 121 and 128, the same have been canceled, thus rendering their rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) moot.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

The above amendments and remarks establish the patentable nature of all the claims currently in this case. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance and passage to issue of these claims are therefore respectfully solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorney would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Spinelli
Thomas Spinelli
Registration no. 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser
400 Garden City Plaza
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 742-4343

TS/cm

Enclosure (Version with Markings to Show Changes Made)

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 121 and 128 have been canceled and the claims have been amended as follows:

112. (Amended) A device for inserting data into digital data, the device comprising:

a memory for storing an identifier corresponding to each of at least one user of the device;

biometric characteristic recognition means for recognizing a biometric characteristic of a user of the device whose identifier is stored in the memory;

means for outputting the identifier corresponding to the recognized user from the memory; and

means for inserting data corresponding to the identifier into the digital data.

117. (Amended) A method for inserting a digital signature into digital data, the digital data comprising bits, the method comprising the steps of:

assigning predetermined bits of the digital data for receiving the digital signature;

receiving associated data from a Global Positioning Satellite transmission;

inserting the associated data into the digital data;

signing the digital data excluding the predetermined bits resulting in the digital signature; and

inserting the digital signature into the predetermined bits of the digital data for subsequent authentication of the digital data and associated data;
wherein the associated data comprises at least two fields.

124. (Amended) An encoder for inserting a digital signature into digital data, the digital data comprising bits, the encoder comprising:
means for assigning predetermined bits of the digital data for receiving the digital signature;
means for receiving associated data from a Global Positioning Satellite transmission;
means for inserting the associated data into the digital data prior to signing the digital data, the associated data comprising at least two fields;
means for signing the digital data excluding the predetermined bits resulting in the digital signature; and
means for inserting the digital signature into the predetermined bits of the digital data for subsequent authentication of the digital data and the associated data.